

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAB-01 SAM-01 IO-13 ACDA-07 OMB-01 SAJ-01

AF-08 /101 W

----- 078199

R 301514Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7047

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12097

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF

SUBJ: IZVESTIYA ARTICLE EMPHASIZES CONTINUED SOVIET CONCERN
OVER THREAT TO PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT

1. SUMMARY. JULY 30 IZVESTIYA FRONTPAGE INTERNATIONAL
COMMENTARY ON LEBANON BY ME EXPERT V. KUDRYAVTSEV WARNS OF
DANGER TO PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT AND SUGGESTS THAT PALESTINIAN
STATE COULD BE ESTABLISHED ON TO-BE LIBERATED TERRITORIES
PRESENTLY OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL. ASSUMING A FAILURE OF
CURRENT CEASE-FIRE EFFORTS, EMBASSY HAS IMPRESSION MOSCOW
MAY BE SETTING ITSELF UP FOR SOME GESTURE OF ASSISTANCE TO
BELEAGUERED PALESTINIANS. END SUMMARY.

2. WE NOTE FOLLOWING POINTS OF INTEREST. ASSUME FBIS WILL CARRY
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TEXT.

-- INSISTENCE THAT ADMITTEDLY COMPLICATED CONFLICT
COULD NOT HAVE REACHED ITS PRESENT STATE WITHOUT SOME
INTERFERENCE BY IMPERIALISTS;

-- LINKAGE OF BREZHNEV'S 25TH PARTY CONGRESS IMPLICIT
CRITICISM OF SECRETARY'S ME EFFORTS WITH POLITICAL
"GAME" BEING PLAYED IN LEBANON;

-- STRESS ON TWO POINTS WHICH SOVIETS HAVE RECENTLY
BEEN MAKING ON PALESTINIANS, A) PALESTINIAN MOVEMENT
IS CONNECTING LINK IN ARAB STRUGGLE FOR ELIMINATION
OF VESTIGES OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION, AND, B) PALESTINIAN
MOVEMENT IS THREATENED WITH "PHYSICAL LIQUIDATION" IN
LEBANON;

-- ASSERTION THAT
ISRAELI-OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS ARE "PERHAPS ONLY ONES ON
WHICH A PALESTINIAN STATE COULD BE ESTABLISHED;"

-- WARNING, BASED ON WESTERN PRESS REPORTS, THAT
IMPERIALISTS MAY BE SEEKING A SORT OF "ARAB ISRAEL"
IN A PARTITIONED LEBANON RESOLUTION.

-- NO MENTION OF SYRIA IN THIS CAREFULLY WRITTEN ARTICLE.

3. COMMENT. MOSCOW CONTINUES IN THIS FASHION TO SEND
STRONG SIGNALS OF ITS CONCERN OVER PLIGHT OF PALES-
TINIAN MOVEMENT AND TO EMPHASIZE ITS IMPORTANCE FOR SOVIET ME
POLICY. FAILURE TO MENTION SYRIA OBVIOUSLY REFLECTS WAIT AND
SEE APPROACH TO WHETHER NEW CEASE-FIRE WILL TAKE HOLD. IN
THIS REGARD, THERE HAS BEEN FALLING OFF OF CRITICAL
REFERENCES TO SYRIAN MILITARY ROLE IN LEBANON OVER
LAST FEW DAYS. HOWEVER, SHOULD CEASE-
FIRE EFFORTS FAIL, AS SEEMS LIKELY, AND "PHYSICAL"
THREAT TO PALESTINIANS REAPPEAR, MOSCOW WILL BE FACED
WITH IMMEDIATE DILEMMA OF WHAT, IF ANYTHING, ACTUALLY
TO DO FOR PALESTINIANS. FROM OUR LIMITED
VANTAGE POINT IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THEY HAVE NO VIABLE
OPTIONS EXCEPT TO GRIT THEIR TEETH AND BEAR IT.
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